



## Thousands apply for Healthy Indiana Plan coverage

Dec. 27, 2007 - Governor Mitch Daniels announced that nearly 4,500 low-income Hoosiers submitted applications to the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) for coverage with the state's innovative new health care program during the program's first week. The state began to process applications for the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) on December 17 and has funding to cover about 130,000 Hoosiers annually who do not have health insurance.



*Dec. 27, 2007— Gov. Daniels was joined by health care advocates for an announcement about the Healthy Indiana Plan.*

"Passing landmark health care legislation was great. But seeing real people beginning to benefit from it is far better, so we are out to spread the word for all who might qualify," said Daniels.

The HIP plan will provide health insurance for uninsured adult Hoosiers 19 to 64 years old whose household income is 22 percent to 200 percent of the federal poverty level and who are not eligible for Medicaid. A family of four, for example, would be eligible if income does not exceed \$41,300; the maximum income level for a family of two is \$27,380.

"HIP is a bold experiment that has already attracted national attention, and the early surge in applications from throughout the state is a clear sign that the need is great and that the people are ready to respond," said David Roos, state program director for Covering Kids and Families of Indiana.

[Read the news release.](#)

[Listen to the announcement.](#)

[Learn more about HIP.](#)

## Employers joining INShape Indiana efforts

Jan. 4, 2008- Hoosier health and fitness is getting another boost to start the new year. Governor Daniels said that more than a dozen companies, led by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Indiana, have agreed to participate in company wellness programs that incorporate INShape Indiana, his program to promote healthy lifestyles. Additionally, INShape will launch its second *10 in 10 Challenge* on January 7 to encourage Hoosiers to lose 10 pounds in 10 weeks.

"Now, we're going wholesale, and it will really make a difference in the number of Hoosiers working on a more active and healthy lifestyle by having so many large organizations involved," said Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)

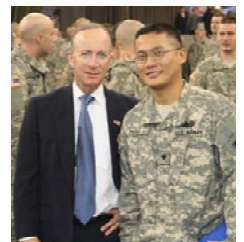
[Listen to the announcement.](#)

[Sign up for the 10 in 10 challenge.](#)

## Governor attends send-off for Hoosier soldiers

Jan. 2, 2008- Governor Daniels joined thousands of family members and friends of Indiana National Guard soldiers for a departure ceremony for the members of the 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. Approximately 3,400 Indiana troops are being deployed in support of Operation Iraqi freedom.

"We are proud of these people," Governor Daniels said. "They make a double sacrifice. Not only do they put themselves at risk, but they leave families and jobs behind to do it."



*Jan. 2, 2008- Governor Daniels with Fort Wayne native SPC Hau Thang.*

To view past updates, click [here](#).

To visit Governor Daniels' Web site, click [here](#).

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

### IEDC posts third consecutive record-breaking year

Dec. 28, 2007- More than 150 companies from across the state, the country and around the world committed to create more than 22,600 new jobs in the Hoosier state this year, breaking the state's previous job commitment record set just a year ago.

Since Governor Mitch Daniels established the Indiana Economic Development Corporation early in 2005, the state has set and then exceeded all previous marks for competitive job creation and average wage associated with the new jobs in each year. In all, nearly 500 companies have committed to create more than 60,000 jobs in Indiana and to invest more than \$14.57 billion in their Indiana operations since January 2005.

"In its three short years, the IEDC has proven to be a better mousetrap for capturing jobs for Indiana. Our state's emergence as an economic leader is no accident, and much of the credit goes to the team that built and now operates this job-attracting machine," said Daniels.

Indiana's unemployment rate is the lowest in six years and the state has had the lowest unemployment rate in the Midwest for six consecutive months.

[Read the news release.](#)

[Listen to the announcement.](#)

### Technology company to nearly triple its Indiana workforce

Dec. 28, 2007- Executives from software developer LHP Inc. joined Governor Daniels at the State House to announce the company's plans to grow its Columbus operations, creating more than 320 new high-tech jobs by 2011.

The international developer of software and hardware solutions for the military, automotive and medical industries will invest more than \$1 million to expand its southeast Indiana headquarters and development center, making room for new research and development equipment and new computer hardware.

"LHP is increasing its commitment to Indiana by making a bigger investment in its headquarters and creating more new high-tech jobs for Hoosiers. The Columbus area continues to be a major contributor to economic development in Indiana," said Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)

[Listen to the announcement.](#)



*Dec. 28, 2007– Gov. Daniels was joined by company executives and local officials for the LHP announcement.*

### Office furniture company to expand its Southern Indiana operations

Dec. 27, 2007- Lt. Governor Becky Skillman joined executives from office furniture giant OFS Brands Holdings, Inc. to announce the expansion of the company's national headquarters and manufacturing operations in Huntingburg, creating more than 300 new jobs by 2012.

The manufacturer, marketer and distributor of office furniture will invest more than \$81 million to add new production facilities, veneer operations, UV coating systems and additional office space to its southwest Indiana headquarters and manufacturing center.

"OFS Brands joins a growing list of companies like Berry Plastics, Arcadia Healthcare, Really Cool Foods and SMC Corporation that have decided to grow their global headquarters in Indiana. Headquarters locations, with the high-paying jobs and community commitment they bring, are the best news an economy can get," Skillman said.

[Read the news release.](#)

[Listen to the governor's interview on WIBC.](#)